

## Workforce Education Investment Oversight and Accountability Board

### WEIA Intent and Background

The Workforce Education Investment Account is a *shared vision between legislators, business leaders, higher education, labor, and students* determined to both improve opportunity for Washington students to compete for Washington's jobs and to maintain the economic competitiveness of Washington's businesses by hiring local talent.

#### WEIA goals are to:

- Rapidly increase the rate at which students prepare for, pursue, and complete postsecondary credentials, such as a degree, apprenticeship, or certificate.
- Reach the employer-set goal that by the high school class of 2030 70% of high school students will earn a postsecondary credential by age 26.

Through a new revenue source *supported by those professions that depend on higher education*, the WEI will expand existing investments to help students earn the credentials essential to obtain family-wage jobs and fill the jobs of the future.

#### WEIA strategies are to:

- Target investments to keep tuition low and expand high-demand program capacity for in-state students.
- Prioritize investments in programs that prepare students for high-demand fields, such as computer science, engineering, nursing, and more.
- Appropriate funding to supplement, not supplant, other federal, state, and local funding for higher education.
- Dedicate funding only to higher education programs, higher education operations, higher education compensation, state-funded student aid programs but also include K20 career connected learning (2019-21 biennium only).

### The WEIA Oversight and Accountability Board's Purpose

To ensure the new account fulfills the *shared vision between legislators and business leaders*, the WEIOAB will:

1. Provide guidance and recommendations to the legislature on what workforce education priorities should be funded by WEIA.
2. Ensure accountability that the investments funded with the WEIA are producing the intended results and are effectively increasing student success and career readiness, such as by increasing retention, completion, and job placement rates.

### WEIA Investment Principles

The WEIOAB establishes the following the following principles to guide investment recommendations:

- **Postsecondary Completion:** Help achieve the goal that 70% of students in Washington's high school class of 2030 complete a postsecondary credential by age 26.
- **Equity:** Provide support for historically and systemically underserved students (e.g. first-generation college students; students from low-income backgrounds; and students of color, particularly Black, Hispanic, Latinx, and Indigenous students).
- **Regional Talent:** Help Washington businesses fill the jobs of the future with qualified, home-grown talent.

- **Innovation:** Improve statewide systems and/or test innovative approaches that can be replicated across institutions.
- **Scale:** Focus on the most efficient and cost-effective approaches to increase credential attainment.

### WEIA Investment Accountability Measures

	Outcome	Key Performance Metrics
WA Student Enrollment	% and total number of postsecondary enrollees by WA high school cohort	
FAFSA Completion in Grade 12	% of WA high school students that completes the FAFSA/WASFA in 12th grade by high school, district, and PS institution	
WA College Grant-Eligible Student Enrollment	% of students eligible for the WA College Grant that enroll in postsecondary education within one year of high school graduation by high school, district, and PS institution	
Postsecondary Completion Rate	% of high school cohort that completes a credential within six years by institution, sector, and program of study	
Retention Rates	% of high school cohort that continues postsecondary enrollment from 1st to 2nd year by institution, sector, and program of study	
Throughput—Time to Degree	Average time (years) for a student to complete a credential by institution, sector, and program of study	
Economic Outcomes	Median salary for graduates five years after credential attainment by institution, sector, and program of study	

### WEIOAB Decision Making

TBD – Consensus? Majority?

### Meeting Schedule

The 17-member WEIOAB is required to meet four times a year and to report to the legislature annually each December. The 2021 meeting schedule is:

Monday, March 29	9:30-11:30
Wednesday, May 19	9:00-12:00 (time may be reduced)
Wednesday, August 11	9:00-12:00 (time may be reduced)
Wednesday, November 10	9:00-12:00 (time may be reduced)

## 2021 Workplan

### March 29

- Revisit board purpose and decision making
- Discuss how to create shared mission, focus, priorities, principles for WEIAOB
- Establish shared knowledge of baseline data for the “state of the state” with regards to workforce education
- Stress test proposed 2021 legislation against WEI vision

### May 19 Meeting

- Finalize priorities, principles and key performance indicators and measurement methods

### August 11 Meeting

- Release 2019-21 fund recipients report on outcomes and Key Performance Indicators (KPI's)
- Discuss priorities for 2021-23 biennium

### November 10 Meeting

- Propose outline for legislative report
- Finalize 2021-21 biennium priorities, outcomes, KPI's

### December

- Submit report to legislature

## 2019-21 Appropriation Detail

Appropriations from the 2019-21 biennium totaled \$347.7 million, with the largest as follows:

- \$160.3 million for the Washington College Grant
- \$65.5 million in foundational support for the public higher education institutions
- \$60.8 million for increasing nurse educator salaries and high-demand program faculty salaries at the community and technical colleges
- \$32.1 million for implementing Guided Pathways at the community and technical colleges
- \$17.1 million for new degrees and expanded enrollments in high-demand programs
- \$14.4 million for the Washington State University Elson S. Floyd College of Medicine
- \$11.5 million for career connected learning initiatives
- \$4.2 million for Working Connections Child Care